Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A radially expandable stent comprising a wire having a substantially uniform hydrogel coating layer thereon, the thickness of the coating having ~~has~~ a relative standard deviation of no greater than about 10 percent.

Claim 2 (original): The stent of claim 1 wherein the layer has an average dry coating thickness of about 0.01 micrometer to about 25 micrometers.

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (original): The stent of claim 1 wherein the layer further comprises a biologically active agent.

Claim 5 (original): The stent of claim 4 wherein the biologically active agent comprises a substance selected from the group consisting of dipyridamole, heparin, anti-platelet drugs, anti-thrombogenic drugs, anti-proliferative drugs, anti-mitotic drugs, and combinations thereof.

Claim 6 (original): The stent of claim 1 wherein the layer provides a hydrophilic surface.

Claim 7 (original): The stent of claim 1 wherein the layer provides a biocompatible surface.

Claims 8-11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (withdrawn): A method for making a radially expandable intravascular stent comprising:

providing a metal wire;

applying to the wire a solution that includes a solvent and a water soluble polymer in the solvent;

evaporating the solvent to provide a polymeric coating on the wire;

crosslinking the polymeric coating to provide a hydrogel coating layer on the wire; and

fabricating the coated wire into a cylindrical, radially expandable stent body.

Claims 13-15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (withdrawn): The method of claim 12 wherein the hydrogel coating layer has an average dry coating thickness of about 0.01 micrometer to about 25 micrometers.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): The method of claim 12 wherein the thickness of the hydrogel coating layer has a relative standard deviation of no greater than about 10 percent.

Claim 18 (withdrawn): A method for delivery of a biologically active agent to the interior of a body lumen comprising:

providing a metal wire;

applying to the wire a solution that includes a solvent, a water soluble polymer in

the solvent, and a biologically active agent dispersed in the solvent;

evaporating the solvent to provide a polymeric coating on the wire;

crosslinking the polymeric coating to provide a hydrogel coating layer on the wire;

fabricating the coated wire into a cylindrical, radially expandable stent body;

introducing the stent body transluminally into a selected portion of the body lumen; and

radially expanding the stent body into contact with the body lumen.

Claim 19 (withdrawn): A method for delivery of a biologically active agent to the interior of a body lumen comprising:

providing a metal wire;

applying to the wire a solution that includes a solvent and a water soluble polymer in the solvent;

evaporating the solvent to provide a polymeric coating on the wire;

crosslinking the polymeric coating to provide a hydrogel coating layer on the wire;

fabricating the coated wire into a cylindrical, radially expandable stent body;

applying a biologically active agent to the hydrogel coating layer;

introducing the stent body transluminally into a selected portion of the body lumen; and

radially expanding the stent body into contact with the body lumen.

Claim 20 (withdrawn): A method of modifying cellular response in a body lumen to a disease, injury, or foreign body, comprising:

providing a metal wire;

applying to the wire a solution that includes a solvent, a water soluble polymer in

the solvent, and a biologically active agent dispersed in the solvent;

evaporating the solvent to provide a polymeric coating on the wire;

crosslinking the polymeric coating to provide a hydrogel coating layer on the wire;

fabricating the coated wire into a cylindrical, radially expandable stent body;

introducing the stent body transluminally into a selected portion of the body lumen;

radially expanding the stent body into contact with the body lumen; and

controllably releasing the biologically active agent into the body lumen.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): A method of modifying cellular response in a body lumen to a disease, injury, or foreign body, comprising:

providing a metal wire;

applying to the wire a solution that includes a solvent and a water soluble polymer in the solvent;

evaporating the solvent to provide a polymeric coating on the wire;

crosslinking the polymeric coating to provide a hydrogel coating layer on the wire;

fabricating the coated wire into a cylindrical, radially expandable stent body;

applying a biologically active agent to the hydrogel coating layer;

introducing the stent body transluminally into a selected portion of the body lumen;

radially expanding the stent body into contact with the body lumen; and

controllably releasing the biologically active agent into the body lumen.